

12-12-1996

GlimmerGlass Volume 56 Number 06 (1996)

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Recommended Citation

Grills, Matt (Executive Editor) and Williams, Sue (Faculty Advisor), "GlimmerGlass Volume 56 Number 06 (1996)" (1996).
GlimmerGlass. 782.
<https://digitalcommons.olivet.edu/gg/782>

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Glimmer Glass

**Time to play
a game of
Ollieopoly!**

**Murder
Mysteries
first-degree
acting fun**

**Networking:
You should
start doing it**

**Is being
a college RA
really worth
it all?**

**Federal
Seminar:
Having fun
in the capital**

Tis the season ...

A large, decorated Christmas tree is the central focus of the image. It is covered in numerous lights and ornaments. In the background, a building with a prominent steeple, likely a church or university building, is visible against a dark night sky. The overall scene is festive and holiday-themed.

'Cause I Said So...

In the strong lyrical tradition of everyone's classic movie favorite titled *So I Married an Axe Murderer* ...

Thou fairest Richelle and Kristen:
 Banquet. Ban-quet. Baaaaan-quet.
 We both need dates.
 Hope we're not lates.
 It's Christmas time in the ... city.
 Will you go with us?
 We are quite lonely.
 You are our so hoped for,
 So longed for,
 So pretty,
 So ... go with us.
 We are so goofy,
 You will have fun
 Eating a ton
 Yum yum
 Yum yum yum yum
 Yum yum yum yum ... yum.

- saved by sola gratia sola fide

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Social Committee ready for second semester events

BY VALERIE BATES
 News Writer

Finals are only a week away and next semester seems like eternity. Remember back to all those events sponsored by Social Committee, including the Ollies Follies kick-off in August? None of those activities could have happened without the dedicated members of Social Committee.

"The activities this semester went really well. We tried some new ideas and were successful. The committee works well together as a team," said Richelle Schmidt, Vice President of Social Affairs.

But just because the semester is ending doesn't mean they haven't been working hard to plan more events for next semester. After your holiday fun Social Committee has some activities you won't want to miss. On the first Friday of the semester, January 17, warm up your voices and head to the Red Room for Karaoke Night. The event begins at 8 p.m. and is sure to be a treat for performers and non-performers alike. The real fun begins when participants shed their introverted tendencies and

let loose - sometimes off-key. "Some people who sing are really funny. They get up and try to sing ... many people get up there and mess around and some sound *really* funny ... they make the night well worth it because they make you laugh," said junior Kat Boles.

Just thirteen days after Karaoke Night, Social Life is sponsoring a free pizza party for all ONU Tiger Basketball fans. "Basketball Before Third" is an easy way to get a free meal and support ONU basketball. All you need to do is show up to the ONU Varsity Tiger Basketball game on January 30 before the third quarter and Social Committee members will be there to stamp your hand, the ticket to the post-game events. These include free pizza and soda in the Turf Room following the game.

On February 13 is the annual Cupid's Corner. A game inspired by the hit 80s game show "The Newlywed Game" includes dating couples on campus. The participants answer questions concerning their significant others in front of a hungry crowd at dinner in Ludwig. Everyone is invited

to sit back and laugh at Oliver's own. The Roaring Twenties Party returns on March 1. It may be three months away, but you can use your Christmas break to find that unique costume that will outshine the others for this event.

Guests can participate by dressing up in regalia of the 1920s, such as flappers and gangsters, and then head over to the Stone Barn Restaurant for dinner and entertainment.

"There will be jazz music, a murder mystery, and lots of atmosphere," promises Schmidt. The event will require tickets.

Last but not least is the mysterious "Spring Event", an activity you won't want to miss on April 18. The Social Committee is still finishing all the plans for this party, but Schmidt is confident about all the plans for next year.

"We are excited about next semester's events. We are especially excited about the Roaring 20s Party, and we hope that by keeping costs low we will encourage students to participate."

Federal Seminar offers chance to see politics in action

BY GABRIELLE GARRETT
 News Writer

Would you like to see great monuments to famous Americans, talk with a Supreme Court justice, and listen to some of the top-rated political speakers in the United States? If so, Federal Seminar is a program students like you might want to attend.

In January, Olivet will be sending 24 students to Washington, D.C. to participate in this program. Federal Seminar is sponsored by an interest group, the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE), through their D.C. office of public policy. The NAE desires to give Christian college and university students a chance to experience the nation's capital city first-hand.

Dr. David Van Heemst, political science professor and trip sponsor, spoke of the purpose. "The NAE wants students to understand

how politics work and how the branches intersect with each other."

During their week in D.C., students will visit the White House, hear lectures by members of Congress and their aides, talk with people who have graduated from Christian schools who now have jobs in D.C. and be able to see the different tourist sites in the area. Students also will have the opportunity to meet other people who attend Christian colleges across the nation to see how the schools vary. Olivet typically has the largest group in attendance.

Fonda Williamson, a sophomore computer science major, seeks to go on the trip for more of a life experience. "I'm looking forward to seeing politics in action, up close and personal. To have the chance to sit with senators and representatives will be an awesome experience."

Junior Sherri Jackson, who attended Federal Seminar last year, commented on the trip. "It was an

interesting experience to get the 'inside scoop', especially through the eyes of an interest group [NAE]."

As for the academic aspect, students can receive credit hours for attending Federal Seminar. If students keep a journal, they will receive one credit hour. A journal and a five-page paper is worth two credit hours, while a journal and ten-page paper is worth three hours.

The trip costs \$350, which includes transportation, food, lodging and the extra expenses. Students were required to sign up by November 19 and will be gone January 27 - 31 with sponsors Van Heemst and Dr. David Dean.

Van Heemst added, "Federal Seminar is really a great chance for ONU students to get to see D.C. and receive educational benefits all rolled into one. I recommend that even if students cannot go this year that they plan to go at some point in the future."

Annual toy drive party set for tonight

Last week, the good-hearted folks of Social Work Club set up their table in Ludwig to begin an annual collection of toys for foster children. This is the fifth year the club has collected toys for children of Judson Family Services and Children's Home and Aid Society of Illinois.

The toys will be given to the children tonight at a Christmas party in Birchard Gymnasium.

Social Work Club collected toys for 120 kids, but for students who have not yet participated time still remains. The party is from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. and students are still welcome to take part. Dr. David Van Heemst will play Santa Claus. Food, games and intramurals are also on the agenda.

Social Work Club's next goal is the Necessities Drive from March 10 - 14. This will be a collection of hygiene supplies.

Colgate University opens new coffeehouse

HAMILTON, New York — Colgate University students searching for a cup of java - and an alternative to the bar scene - can now try out the university's new coffeehouse. Colgate owns and operates the Barge Canal Coffee Company in downtown Hamilton.

Michael A. Cappelto, dean of the college, said the university came up with the idea because students needed a hang-out away from campus that was alcohol-free.

A place where students can order a cup of joe instead of a draught of beer adds "a new dimension" to downtown Hamilton, he said.

Since last September, customers - mostly students - have stopped in to order a cappuccino or a latte, or select from gourmet teas, bottled waters and juices. Students can even brush up on their canasta skills. The coffeehouse plans to host canasta clubs, afternoon teas, and weekly acoustic performances.

Networking the best aid in a successful job search

BY COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

Networking is often considered to be that less than noble activity that is reserved only for the most desperate in their job search. Yet nothing could be (or should be) further from the truth. Networking is truly one of the most effective and efficient activities in finding your first position.

The reality of the job market is that many positions are never advertised, never recruited for, and are never made known outside of the organization. Yet they continue to be filled. How? By referral. By referral of someone internal or external - in other words, the "who-do-you-know" method of filling a job often is used. That's networking.

Let's understand some of the dynamics behind networking by looking at a practical case example.

Entry-level hiring within our company is usually planned a full eight to 12 months in advance of the actual hire date. The first people made aware of any new hiring need are our management team. Planning for entry-level hiring is part of our strategic planning process.

And the very first step in filling the position is taking internal recommendations from the management staff.

The process goes to the next level when we announce the upcoming opportunity to all employees. This happens first at the local, then regional and finally national levels.

If we have not yet identified potential candidates for the position after this, we then integrate the position into our on-campus hiring process.

And no, we will never advertise the job opening. That's why job seekers who have tapped into our internal network often have an employment offer before we even begin our on campus interviewing.

The old "who-do-you-know" network is alive and functioning quite well, thank you, in the employment marketplace.

Yet most college students don't

consider themselves to be very well plugged in when it comes to networking. After all, students ask themselves, "Who do I know who can give me a job?" Probably no one. But networking is *not* about first-level contacts.

The key to effective networking is what is called "the Ripple Effect." Simply stated, the Ripple Effect is similar to what happens when you toss a stone into a pond. The first ripple is the largest ripple, but it's the second and third ripples that covers the greatest area. The more stones that break the surface, the greater are your chances of covering the pond's surface with your ripples.

Moral to the story: If you want to give yourself the opportunity to make a ripple in the marketplace, you're going to have to toss a few stones into the pond. Otherwise you probably won't even break the surface.

In building your job search network, you will need to develop a list of potential network contacts. Don't worry about whether they are personally responsible for hiring. It's not who they are, it's who they know.

The Networking Business Card Technique

One very practical device for facilitating networking is to use networking business cards. They are the same as a normal business card, with name, address and phone number.

But instead of a title, you should have a short description of your greatest career asset or interest. For example: "Seeking Public Accounting Audit Position" or "Seeking Reporter Position with News Daily."

This "Seeking..." line replaces the standard title line on most business cards and makes it stand out in the eyes of the receiver. You can order 200-500 for a minimal cost at most print shops.

The simple mechanics behind developing a network contact involves making a phone call to the person and telling them, "I would like to include you in my network of job contacts."

Then explain succinctly what you are looking for (have your 30-second "elevator pitch" down pat) and offer to send them a copy of your resume and several networking business cards.

Then ask them to contact you directly if they are aware of anyone who could be of further help.

This important last step is what expands your network out to second and third levels. And by giving you the opportunity to directly get in touch with these next-level contacts, you are able to expand your network exponentially.

Who should you contact? First, contact your relatives. And not your immediate family - branch out into the family tree. And not just those who are "well connected in business." Aunt Mabel may play bridge with someone who knows someone who

may have an interest.

Remember, it's not who they are, but who they know. Next, contact friends - old and new, high school and college, neighbors and social acquaintances. One of the best contacts in this group are your college friends who graduated last year. They're already through the job search process and probably have lots of contacts (and free advice).

Next, contact every known entity within your college - professors, advisers, administrators, coaches (they are often amazingly well-connected), and anyone else who has ties to your school.

And be sure to reach beyond your circle of known alums to reach out to all alumni (recent or past) who are working for any target companies, within your target geography or within your chosen profession.

Spend an afternoon at the campus Alumni Affairs office. They're usually more than willing to help.

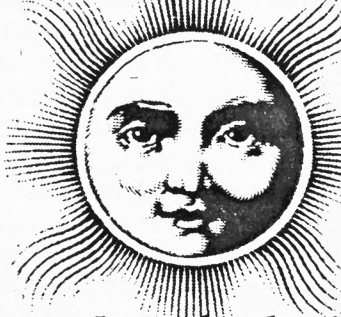
Lastly, contact past and present employers, professional associations, and social contacts through church, the synagogue, a club or some other organization.

With this contact information in hand, you now have insider access to a plethora of companies that you may not have been aware of previously.

In making contact with the employer, you now have a referral source who can not only assist you in getting in the door, but can walk you through the required steps on your way toward a potential position.

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RAs forced to deal with big social issues

COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

Being a resident aide on a college campus used to mean acting as a big brother or sister to younger students. Duties included refereeing disagreements over loud music, hand-holding homesick freshmen and reprimanding such mischief as cherry bombs launched down a commode.

Today, with increasing social problems and violence on campuses, resident assistants are dealing with problems such as drug abuse, rape, and in rare cases, murder. Earlier this fall, Jay Severson was just doing his job as an RA at Purdue University when he was shot to death. He reported freshman Jarrod Eskew to university police for cocaine possession. Eskew shot Severson and then committed suicide.

This incident, while extreme, has shaken up many RAs and has them questioning whether the job is worth the free room and board.

"Quite honestly ... it scared the s--- out of me," said Kelly Messick, a resident director who supervises RAs at the University of Oregon. "I look at my staff and think, 'They are there 24 hours a day, and we ask them to be part of their students' lives. But there is so much uncertainty about what could happen from day to day.'"

Violence on campuses is increasing. A national study by the *Chronicle of Higher Education* found a 26.3 percent increase in homicide in 1994, the largest increase for any crime on campus.

Just this year, a student was killed by a sniper at Pennsylvania State University; a student was murdered, allegedly by a spurned boyfriend, at the University of Colorado-Greeley; and students were found murdered at the University of Pennsylvania and James Madison University.

Often, it is the RA who deals with the underlying emotional problems that may lead to these homicides, or the trauma of their aftermath on fellow students.

"Housing operations all over the country are now asking undergraduates to be on the 'front lines' of students' lives and the issues that we are asking them to face are enormous," said D.J. Morales, who currently serves as the University of

Oregon's resident life director.

"I think that in a lot of ways the RA position has become more counselor and mediator because of the complex issues that are coming in," explained Messick. "RAs are not just going to plan programs and go out for pizza. We are asking them to deal with more substantial issues as well."

This doesn't mean RAs haven't had to face tough problems in the past. While the days of monitoring midnight curfews in women's dorms may be a thing of the past at most colleges, certainly drugs, alcohol, and sex are not new issues, particularly when you think of the 1960s.

"Back then alcohol was more acceptable. We were riding the liberal 60s. Now the legal drinking age is 21 and back then it was 18," said Lorna Hirae, director of campus life at the United States International University in San Diego.

But changing the legal drinking age actually has given campus officials less control over alcohol and its abuse, they say. Administrators used to be able to monitor students drinking in public settings. But now underage students drink behind closed doors - often in the dorm room.

"I think the issue of drug abuse and alcohol experimentation have been around for 30-plus years, so that's nothing new," said Messick. "What we are seeing is an increase in mental health issues. On this campus this year we are dealing with people that may be on medication, or not taking their medication, in which case we may be dealing with behavior that affects the community."

She continued, "This is a place that people feel like they can send their student to, and we'll take care of them. It puts a burden on us because we are not a mental health treatment center. We are not trained to monitor medication."

Morales also emphasized that RAs are not trained counselors. "They need to work on being good listeners and great at referring folks to the appropriate places."

The breakdown of the traditional family is one of the reasons Hirae feels there are more students needing help. This also has

contributed to a change of attitude toward authority. "When I was an RA in the early 1980s, I had an easier time in terms of discipline. Students today are not as respectful as students in past, probably because of liberation and individuality. They have a disrespect for authority. Being more vocal is fine, but not being verbally abusive."

Still, real violence in the residence halls is rare. "It is always a concern to our staff," said Morales. "But I don't believe this concern has reached epidemic proportions to the extent that staff quit for their safety."

More often, RAs are called upon to use their training in mediation to help students deal with disputes before things get out of hand. "I don't think people are teaching coping skills anymore," Messick said with a hint of frustration. "I am doing a lot more conflict resolution stuff and dealing with uncivil behavior, such as people trashing the building, people confronting each other in a real hostile manner ... a lack of politeness even, if you want to be so quaint."

She added, "Part of it is the litigious nature of our society - I want what I want when I want it. It can be a little hard to overcome when you are building a community of 60-plus residents and trying to work together."

At the University of Virginia, the administration and RAs are responding to a surge in student-life complaints from students and their parents. "Students apparently spend so much time in front of computers or interactive video games that they lack social skills," said Ida Lee Wooteen, a UV news officer.

She said that when "Johnny plays his stereo too loudly in his dorm room, it often doesn't occur to his neighbors to knock on Johnny's door and ask him politely to turn the music down." Instead students are voicing anger and frustration over such normal campus experiences to the RAs. This has led the university to launch student-orientation programs that teach students how to cope with one another.

Entering students also are told they must be accountable for their own actions, and this message is sent to their parents. When a

student is accepted to UV, the administration sends the parents a letter suggesting they talk to their children about social responsibility before they arrive on campus. "Parents have thanked us for suggesting what topics to discuss with their children," said Robert Canevari, UV's Dean of Students.

The threat of lawsuits also has changed the way RAs are trained to do their jobs. Since the RA often is the first to respond to any incident, they have to understand the laws regarding issues such as privacy, date rape and more. Most campuses now give RAs extensive training so that they fully understand their role and the university's vulnerability. When there is a lawsuit, RAs often must testify. "RAs [today] definitely have a better understanding of legal issues, especially liability, than we ever did as undergraduates," said Morales.

But some speculate that the problems RAs face are not new, just more visible. Raechele Pope, a Teacher College professor at Columbia University and specialist in educating student-life officials, was an RA two decades ago. She said even then she was dealing with pretty serious issues, but what has changed is the sheer volume of work. She noted that counseling centers used to have to go in search of students needing help. Now those centers have long waiting lists from students coming to them.

"It may be that today's students are more likely to seek help because there is not the stigma attached that there once was," she explained. "There are also more college students."

John Sloan III, a criminologist at the University of Alabama at Birmingham also said he wonders whether there are more problems on campus than in the past. "We don't have any baseline data, so we don't know over time what's happening, if colleges are becoming more dangerous or less dangerous. Maybe they used to have to deal with these issues, but now it is in the spotlight. People are willing to talk about this stuff more than they used to be; in the past victims weren't coming forward. It may be students are more willing to come forward and talk about it."

Overall, Messick feels that we are "just turning up the volume" on social issues that have always been there. "I don't think there's anything out there that we haven't seen before, we are just seeing more of it. If I have a bulimic student on a hall, we now know how to handle it. We wouldn't be shocked and say, 'Oh my gosh, we have someone who's bulimic.'"

No matter what they face, most RAs say they still like their job. Lafayette College senior and RA Melissa Wallace said, "A resident adviser has to be a listener, adviser and friend, not just a security officer." Wallace said she believes it is her job to educate fellow students on how to take care of their own needs as adults because "a lot of growth comes from learning to live with other people."

She also enjoys other aspects of the job, such as putting together interesting activities or hosting a multicultural dinner. "The job takes creativity, time and patience," said Wallace. "I really have a passion for people and for helping students learn. This is my niche on campus."

Tania Bruus, an RA at the United States International University, also is enthusiastic about her work. "It has been a very good challenge. We help people with all kinds of problems ... just about anything you can come up with, even helping repot a plant!"

Messick said she has learned to deal with challenges as they come. "I feel like I live in a day-to-day world where someone can call and say we have a depressed student in a dorm that might be suicidal ... we deal with it, and it almost becomes normal. My parents have no clue what I do for a living. When they ask what I did today I say, 'Well, I had a suicidal student,' and they just can't imagine it."

"It's hard for me to judge what's escalated and what's different now because that's what we do all the time, seven days a week ... deal with student issues."

And Messick has no intention of stopping her work any time soon. "In spite of all the weirdness that happens, there's no better place I think to really have an impact on student lives than where they live."

College students seek affordable ways to do their holiday shopping

BY COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

CHICAGO — The holiday shopping season is here, and for most students, that means opening a pencil-thin wallet to buy presents for loved ones.

"Anything I can't afford is going on my credit card," said Maureen Golga, 21, a DePaul University junior. "So I'll just be paying it off the rest of my life, along with my student loans."

Stop right there!

Presents for the family, friends and even your favorite profs don't have to cost a fortune. With only a few dollars and lots of creativity, you can find someone a fabulous present.

"To make the ultimate cheap gift, go to a coin store and get coins that have a hole in them," suggested Adrienne Harvey, 19, a sophomore at Stetson University in Florida.

Buy different colored silk cord, and make necklaces. "It'll only put you out five or ten dollars, and you can make them all different to

give to all of your friends," she said.

Jason Buehler, 19, a Miami University of Ohio freshman, offers two words of advice for holiday shopping: thrift store.

"For the past two years, I've gotten people things from the thrift store," he said. "Thrift stores are the absolute best places to get gifts. Even if it's dumb, they'll laugh."

Shannon MacLaughlan, 29, a Stetson junior, said she fills small baskets with tins of flavored coffee and cocoa.

"They are inexpensive to make, and you can even use stockings instead of baskets," she said. "They make great gifts for relatives and extended family members."

It's all good advice for those students whose generous impulses might leave them with a depleted bank account come the New Year.

According to a recent Gallup poll, the average shopper expects to spend about \$800 on presents this holiday season.

Of course, that forecast

comes from a poll of 1,009 consumers with a mean income of \$32,730. Most college students, even those with full-time jobs, don't earn nearly that much.

Maxine Sweet, vice president of consumer education for Experian, a credit information services company, offers tips for students short on cash.

First, to save extra money for holiday shopping, "consider skipping those costly snacks from vending machines," she suggested. "Think about other treats like video rental and magazines that you can do without ... in the spirit of holiday giving."

Also, "an act of kindness is worth more than any holiday gift money can buy," she said.

"Look at your gift-giving list. Would an elderly relative rather have a room painted or a garage cleaned than a cheese-of-the-world assortment pack?"

A student might offer free baby-sitting services to an older sister

or brother with young children, Sweet said. And just spending time with your family can be a great gift. "It doesn't cost a cent, and it makes the season truly special," she added.

Golga, of DePaul, said she always has that idea in mind when she tells her parents she'll take them out to dinner as a gift.

"I take them some place where they have gift certificates, and so I just buy the drinks," she said. "But they just like that I spend time with them because I'm never home."

For friends, Golga said she will probably give her old standby: candles. "They're always cheap. I always buy my friends candles," she said. "They're probably sick of it."

DePaul senior Jason Brown, 23, ticks off all the people on his shopping list: "My folks, my brother, my sister-in-law, my other brother, my next-door neighbors. Then I have my girlfriend, and her folks and her brother."

Brown works full-time at a mountain outfitter store. "I make

decent money," he said. "Most of the gifts I buy are from my store, so I get, like, 70 percent off. So that's a little easier."

A good gift idea, he said, is a subscription to a beverage-of-the-month club. "You can pay the first couple of months, then they can pay if they want to keep it up," he said.

Melissa Morris, 21, a Miami senior, said she likes to give gift certificates.

"You can always give gift certificates to music stores, like a five-dollar one," she said. "Then they can go buy a CD, and it will be real cheap."

Even with a host of inexpensive gift ideas, holiday shopping is still out of the question for some college students.

"I don't think I'm going to do any this year. I have no money," said James McArthur, 21, a student at Wright Community College in Chicago.

"The greatest gift is no gift at all," he added.

Students campaign to stop college rankings

BY COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

PALO ALTO, California — A crusade launched by Stanford University students to stop the *U.S. News and World Report's* annual college rankings has mushroomed into a national movement.

On November 6, the University of California Student Association voted to join Stanford's "Forget *U.S. News* Coalition," a student group that is working to persuade the magazine's editors to drop its yearly listing of the best colleges. Coalition members complain the rankings are too influential and too misleading.

According to Stanford senior Nick Thompson, who started the coalition, the student governments at Wesleyan University, Rice University, Albion College, California Institute of Technology and the Universities of Pennsylvania, Michigan and Pittsburgh already have joined.

"College education cannot

and should not be quantified like a household appliance," he said.

The coalition is pressuring administrators not to give the magazine and information, and to write letters to *U.S. News* stating that the rankings are a disservice to education. The group claims that high school students rely too heavily on the rankings when choosing a college, and some universities may be doctoring their data to improve their score.

Also, the University of California Student Association says that substantive changes are needed "to give equity to private and public institutions."

In the 1997 *U.S. News* rankings, the only public universities to make the top 25 are list were University of Michigan-Ann Arbor (24) and University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (25). University of California-Berkeley was No. 27.

"A college education has a

different value to each and every individual," said Fritz Burkart, a UC-Berkeley student. "The *U.S. News* formula clearly cannot calculate the utility that individuals get from a college education."

The group is asking the magazine to drop the scores so that people only read about the specific attributes of each university.

Administrators say they will continue to send the data because the magazine can obtain that information elsewhere. But at least one administrator, Stanford chancellor Gerhard Casper, has sent a letter criticizing the rankings to *U.S. News* editor James Fallows.

"I hope I have the standing to persuade you that much about these rankings - particularly their specious formulas and spurious precision - is utterly misleading," he wrote. "I am extremely skeptical that the quality of a university - anymore than the quality of a magazine - can

be measured statistically."

The letter was sent two weeks after Stanford slipped from No. 4 to No. 6 in the rankings.

Meanwhile, *U.S. News* editors point out that readers are advised in an introductory paragraph that the rankings "are only one of the any criteria students should consider in choosing a college. Simply because a school is tops in its category does not mean that it is the top choice for everyone."

In a letter to the coalition, Fallows said there's evidence that students use only the *U.S. News* rankings in deciding on a school. A study done by a higher-education consulting group found that rankings play a relatively small role in college choice, he said.

"You are selling the rest of your peers short in ... assuming that many students almost mindlessly follow our rankings in lockstep when choosing a school," he said.

Colleen Connors, media relations manager at *U.S. News*, said the magazine has consistently tried to improve the rankings since it began publishing them ten years ago.

"They've evolved over the years," she said. "We're very open to constructive criticism."

The magazine might make some changes "based on a lot of the feedback we've gotten back from students," she said. "We have no problem with what the students are saying. They've made some very good points."

However, "we'd appreciate it if they examined our methodology in depth," she said. "Realize how seriously we take this. There are serious journalists here, and research experts."

As far as talks with the coalition are concerned, "there hasn't been any kind of appointment set up, but of course we'd be happy to meet with them," she said.

Don't just take the "X" out of Christmas

Each December, we hear the same cry in our Christian circles: "We need to put Christ back into Christmas." And Christmas, they complain, has lost its initial focus as the birthday of Jesus. But throughout history Christmas has had somewhat of a cloudy focus. Pagan roots, secular traditions, and cosmetically Christian celebrations have ignored the values which should be a part of a true celebration of Christ's birth.

The history of Christmas has connections to paganism that rival those of Halloween. December 25 was the date on which the Romans celebrated their winter festival, Saturnalia. This day honored their god of wine and sex, Bacchus. The Greek's equivalent was Dionysis, the pagan goat that actually spawned our connection between Satan and goats. The celebration of this holiday included a total flip in societal practices: cross-dressing, legal gambling, and the closing of the courts all contributed to the festive atmosphere of the season. So of course the Emperor Constantine, upon becoming a Christian, decided that this would be the perfect setting to celebrate the birthday of our Lord.

Pagan roots aside, Christmas is now recognized as a day set aside to remember the day Jesus was born, yet many of the traditional components of the holiday have little to do with Christianity. The secular traditions of American Christmas celebrations

1712 Boston sermon about Christmas to admonish his parishioners by asking them: "Can you in your Conscience think that our holy Saviour is honored by mirth, by long eating, by hard drinking, by lude gaming, by rude reveling, by a mass

God's perfect gift to us, people rush around to find passable gifts for friends and family. Family is valued, but often family gatherings are cause for extra fighting and additional stress. For the mainstream world Christmas has become a celebration of things.

Of course in our subculture, we seek to remember Christ at Christmas. Unfortunately, these good intentions often go unfulfilled, resulting in only surface levels of Christian focus. We listen to Christmas carols. Our Christmas cards contain scripture and pictures of the Baby Jesus, the Virgin Mary, and other notable characters of the Nativity. We fight for our right to display Christian paintings or manger scenes on public property, rather than using our own churchyards in an attempt to provide "peace on earth." While these acts do serve as a reminder to others of what the focus should be, these Christian symbols need to be reflected by Christian actions.

When we celebrate Christmas as the birth of Christ it is important to identify the values and actions which we choose to reflect this amazing event. It is important to focus on the wonderful gift God gave us on that

day. Just as God expressed His love to us, we need to show that love to those we meet. In stores we are surrounded by frenzied, frazzled shoppers and retail workers. My favorite part of Christmas shopping is going out of my way to make someone else's day at the mall a little less stressful. Many won't notice, but for some my little "excuse me" or sincere inquiry about their day will be a welcome relief from the usual holiday rudeness. Most importantly, we need to remind others and ourselves of the gift that was packaged in that amazing baby. Christmas is an ideal time to share our faith with those around us. Some people might be more comfortable attending church in connection with the holiday. Also, Christmas seems to have a way of making the world seem lonelier; we can show them how to fight that loneliness. For Christians, this is an ideal time to reflect on how God has truly blessed us. Our focus needs to be on the Christ whose birth we are celebrating, for without this tiny miracle, our opportunity for salvation and relationship with God would have been impossible.



Cut to the Chase

Debbie Chase
Opinions Editor

have various roots. Many of these traditions, such as Christmas trees, mistletoe, and the yule log come from the pagan practices of the ancient European civilizations including the Celts, Norseman, and Druids. The activities which have long been associated with many American Christmas observances prompted Puritan leader Cotton Mather in a

fit for none but Bacchus or Saturn? But, shall it be said that we take the time to please the hellous legions and do actions that have much more of hell than heaven in them."

Modern Christmas has turned into a marketing dream instead of religious holiday. Shopping seems to be the central focus of most Americans. Rather than focusing on

Not what we know, but what we become

BY MARY DILLINGER
Opinions Writer

As papers pile up and tests threaten, the purpose of a "liberal arts education" becomes cloudy. It seems that the student's life is one only of suffering as sun-drenched summer memories haunt us from behind desks, computers and books. Why are we here? What does a bachelor's degree mean? Are we only products on an assembly line of knowledge, which graduate once all parts are present: fine arts, science and English?

The purpose of a higher education is not what one gains, but what one becomes. Mark Twain once observed that "an education is what you have when you have forgotten everything you know." Critical thinking skills, the ability to tolerate other viewpoints - these are all products of the educational journey.

In the flick *The Moviegoer*, it is said that "the Search is what anyone would undertake if he were not sunk

in the everydayness in his life." The comforting lull of habit between papers and quizzes distracts us from our universal quest.

The particular motives for this quest are as diverse as the earth's inhabitants are. Still, all ultimately seek a deeper understanding of reality. Of the oblivious to our common search, they become distracted along the way, finding meaning to satisfy their questions - for a time.

Fixation is the chief danger in this life. It offers false promises of certainty while stealing away analysis and critical thought. To accept propaganda at face value, believe without reason, or respond in apathy are to opt out of the search, stagnate, and die.

It is a spiritual death I speak of. God gifted us with intelligence and inquisitiveness. When Christ admonished his disciples to become as little children in order to enter the Kingdom of God, he was not

advocating a blind faith; children, though trusting, consistently ask questions, perpetually seek. We are to do the same. When answers do not come, we acknowledge God's greatness and the limitations of our understanding without abandoning the search. Only in seeking we made aware of these limitations. Only in seeking do we gain empathy and understanding for fellow humans, and for community.

True community, *communion*, requires acceptance. Unless one's borders are stretched, the foreign is too frightening and what is different is too threatening for this to take place.

For education asks the seeking student: "Why are you *you* and not someone else?"; If you were born a different age or in a different place, would *you* be different?"; and, "Though you disagree with the ideology of others, if you had the same experiences as they did would you perhaps believe as they do?"

We discover that human nature is constant. Maya Angelou speaks to this in her poem "Human Family": "I note the obvious differences / between each sort and type, / but we are more alike, my friends, / than we are unlike." Beneath everything, we have the same drives and desires. Looking deeper, we may with author Saul Bellow see "in every face the refinement of one motive or essence - *I labor, I spend, I strive, I design, I love, I cling, I uphold, I give way, I envy, I long, I scorn, I die, I hide, I want.*"

Study strips away the labels and categories we have created to keep people and objects separate. It is this Search that will ultimately save us from ourselves. Open to reality, God can be experienced beyond the church to the fabric of all our earthly backdrop, momentous and mundane. It is in looking toward the essences of creation we glimpse our Creator.

We often speak of an

"interdisciplinary education," with no real idea of how it may be achieved. Our classes seem disconnected and irrelevant to our daily lives. To be sure, badminton has little substance of revelation in it, but God, who upholds everything, can bridge the chasm between our understanding and experience. He may be found in the intricacies of the human body, in the music of the *Messiah*, and yes, in the natural laws that make badminton possible.

God grounds our seeking, but does not stop it. It is in remaining open to ideas and experiences that we widen God's range in painting our earthly canvas.

When faced with the frustration of finals, find comfort in this statement by Thoreau: "We know now what we are, but know not what we may become." We are in the process of *becoming* something greater than we are, and every stressor stands as a stepping stone on our journey for understanding.

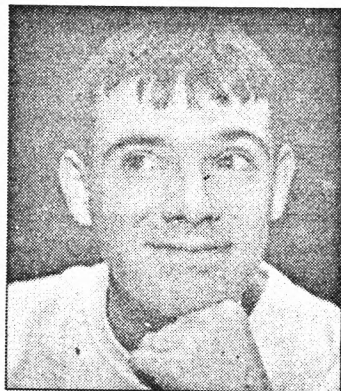
Prayer means living on your knees

How do you pray? I'm just curious. When you present a request to God or you just want to praise Him, what do you say and how do you say it? Too numerous to count are the ways in which God's people can address Him, but the undeniable fact is that He is always listening. No matter what the language, what the dialect, or what time of day it is, our prayers are heard by the Father without worry of speaking too much or being ignored.

Prayer is on my mind a lot tonight as I finish putting the *GlimmerGlass* together with my faithful and steadfast staff. It's on my mind because I'm not doing enough of it. God wasn't really at the center of my thoughts until I suspected that Brett had skipped out on me and left me without a cover photo. Suddenly I found myself wringing my hands and reverently asking the Lord to get my design editor down here to help us.

Four hours later my prayers have been more than answered, as I'm way ahead of schedule and Brett is already finished with his work.

That's how I pray, very



Mattitudes

Matt Grills
Executive Editor

also closes his eyes and bows his head, but he prays loudly. I think that's neat, particularly because I am so quiet and could not imagine raising my voice like that in prayer. What

Different modes of prayer, but the same attitude of coming before our Daddy.

My fiancée Kristen speaks to God like He is standing there beside her. I can't really do that either, because I wonder if people think I am muttering. But Kristen has always said prayer for her is speaking to her best Friend, and she just gushes freely about whatever is on her mind. Different modes of prayer, but the same attitude of coming before our Daddy.

So with all the different ways of entering a time of prayer, when is the best time? Rising early in the morning? At night before going to sleep? Kneeling five times a day in the direction of the Clocktower?

Ephesians 4:18 reads, "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests." Unceasing prayer is what I so weakly strive for, always desiring on my knees in the depths of my heart. When it

comes to prayer, why wait for a special time?

My prayer partner Brad and I have been blessed enough to pick up the habit of praying ... whenever. If we're late to lunch, so what? If we're too bogged down with homework, so what? We are slowly coming to understand that nothing is as important as just keeping up that conversation with God.

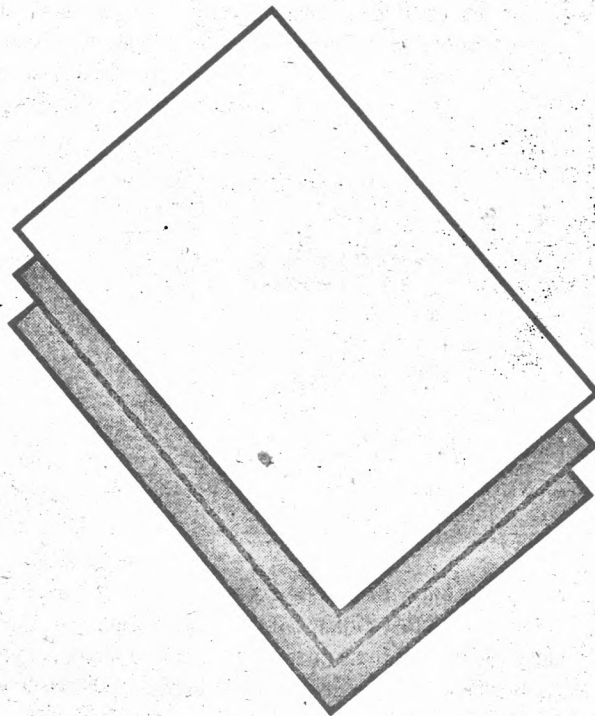
We should not look at prayer in terms of our life and how prayer might fit into it. Rather, we should look at our lives in terms of prayer and how it defines our lives. Steven Curtis Chapman sings, "Let us pray/ Let us pray/ Everywhere in every way." Every moment is indeed the right time. Why? Because we can go before His throne unashamed because of Christ.

A listening Father. Unlimited love. How could I *not* want to talk?



The Tina Shaver Key family would like to thank the Olivet community for its heartfelt expression of love, prayers, support, and gifts. The university has truly been such a blessing to the entire family during this time.

JAIL (lose a turn)	<i>Visiting</i>	Drop your glass in the cafeteria (back 4 spaces)	ONUNET CRASHES (back 2 spaces)	Trapped in <i>GlimmerGlass</i> office on deadline night (lose game)	<i>Professor is ten minutes late for class; you get to leave</i> (advance 1 space)
Just					
Lose your SDS sheet for next semester (go back to Start)					
Chalfant Hall					
<i>Grad check says you're out of here in four years</i> (win game)					
Security unlocks gates for your car (advance 2 spaces)					
Forget to take towel to the Fitness Center (back 2 spaces)					
↑ START HERE!	Need pocket change? Become a chapel checker (go to Chalfant Hall)	You look normal in your ID picture (advance 3 spaces)	<i>Get caught making out in Ludwig Lounge</i> (back 2 spaces)	Your picture is in the next issue of <i>The Olivetian</i> (advance 5 spaces)	



Finals are coming up and we are all looking for stress relievers. Thus, this *GlimmerGlass* feature is designed to bring some light-hearted entertainment into your otherwise dull and monotonous lives. Mind you, the idea was not actually conceived by us. We stole the board game concept from MidAmerica Nazarene College's MANCopoly, which was actually stolen from Northwest Nazarene College's version. And who knows where they took it from.

So we encourage you to ditch the books, grab some dice, and recruit a few friends to help you have some fun for a change. Some of these spaces might apply to you, but don't take offense. The game is all in fun! We all need to chuckle at ourselves once in a while!

Graduate from ONU and <i>then</i> get married (extra turn)	HIT BY WENDY PARSONS ON HIS MORNING BIKE RIDE (back 2 spaces)	Go to Ed Debevic's and spot 20 other Olivetians (advance 2 spaces)	Get busted by Ben Brajcki for wearing shorts in the cafeteria (lose turn)	FREE PARKING (Anywhere on campus you want - even Ludwig's Faculty and Staff spaces)
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**No toilet
paper
anywhere in
your dorm**

(back 5 spaces)

**Uncover the
key to open
Milby
Clocktower's
door**

(advance to Free Parking)

**Excessive
chapel skips find
you in Sharon
Richardson's
office**

(go to Chalfant Hall)

**Discover the
secret recipe
for Marriott's
tater tot
casserole**

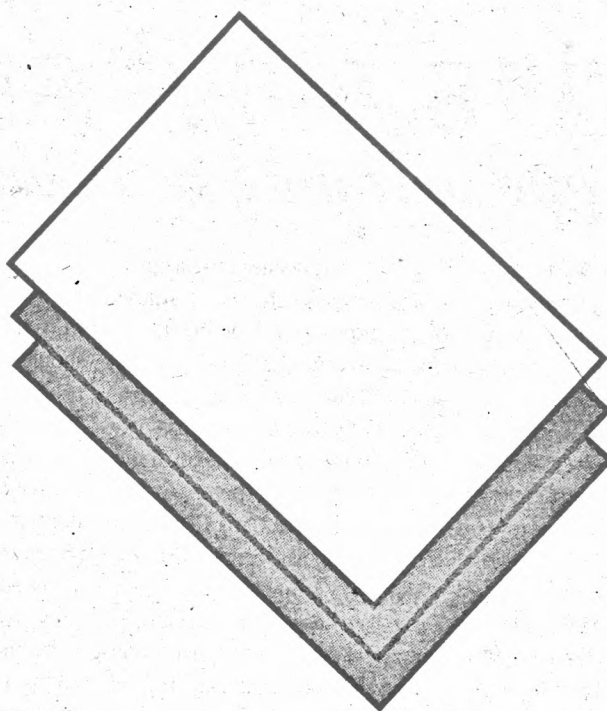
(advance 5 spaces)

**Set the alarm off
when you leave
Benner Library**

(back 3 spaces)

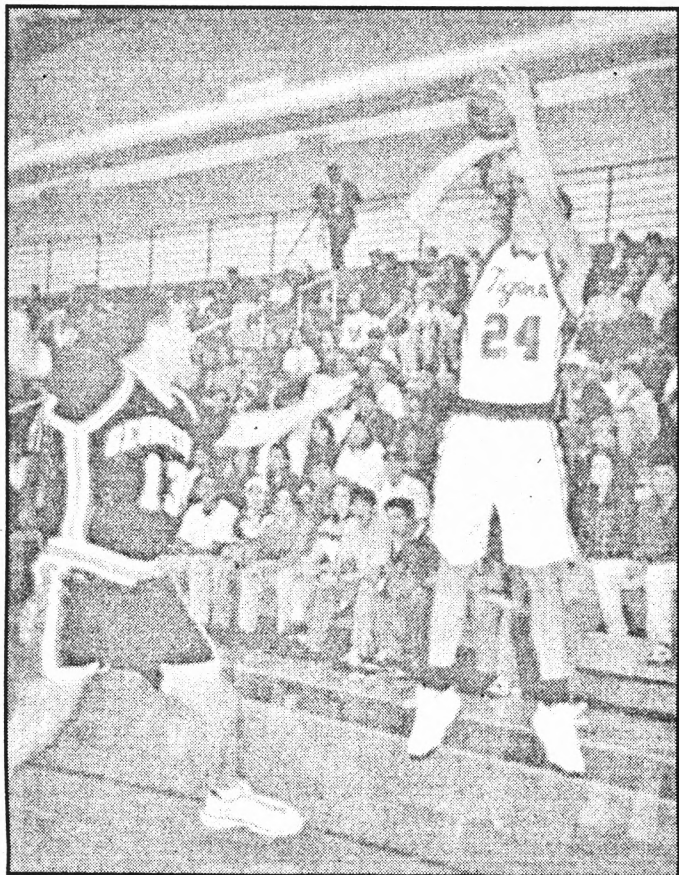
Ollieopoly

** Adapted by Matt Grills, who of course borrowed the idea from someone else*



Win a free cappucino in the Red Room (extra turn)	You beat Asa Chung playing ping-pong (advance 2 spaces)	You and your roommate fail room check (back 3 spaces)	Scale Ol' Smokey (advance 2 spaces)	You're caught participating in the Naked Run GO TO JAIL!
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Tigers hoping for 'aloha' cure



Tiger guard Chris Graham launches a jumper against Georgetown College on November 16. (John Dickson photo)

BY PAUL SCHWADA
Assistant Sports Editor

Surely the Tiger men's basketball team will miss the Kankakee River Valley, but they will dutifully consider their upcoming trip to Hawaii a necessary evil as the team prepares for the all-important second-half of the season.

The Tigers (3-9) travel to the land of luaus soon after Christmas and are hoping the trip is just what they need to be ready for conference play, according to co-captain Jeremy Foster.

"We're out there for three games and we practice two hours a day - the rest of the day is ours. We need to try and forget about the wins and losses from the first semester and get focused on the conference games in the second semester - they're what really counts."

The team has struggled against both a tough schedule and their own mental mindset. Foster points out that the team has gained the upper hand in several of this season's games, but the men failed in

the end to hold on to their lead.

"That's our tendency," he explained. "We just quit playing when we get ahead. We've got to learn to play with a lead."

This was never more evident than Tuesday night at Illinois Wesleyan in Bloomington. The Tigers were leading IWU, one of the top teams in NCAA Division III, by as many as 18 points in the first half, but Olivet couldn't contain the Titans in the second period, who exploded for 50 points to win it 81-75.

The loss came on the heels of a highlight weekend for Olivet at the Augustana Classic, hosted by Augustana College.

The Tigers rolled into town with only one win but tacked on two more with wins over Marycrest College and Augustana.

The Tigers manhandled Marycrest in the tourney's first game to the tune of 73-48 and played solidly en route to a 63-55 over a good Augustana team the next day.

A line-up adjustment involving two of the team captains may be

one of the keys to the Tigers' solid play recently.

To begin the Classic, Coach Ralph Hodge moved Jeff Dillingham to the off-guard and sent Chris Graham to the bench. Both have responded well.

Dillingham, who led the team in turnovers coming into the Classic, has had only two in the last three games. Graham has bumped his points-per-game average up from 7.4 to 10.3.

So the Tigers will continue to go inside-out as they attempt to turn an upside-down first half of the season into a successful conference run. They're hoping that a Honolulu holiday will be just what the doctor ordered to cure those non-conference blues.

Fans unable to make the trip will be able to see the Tigers in action Saturday as they host Purdue-North Central at McHie Arena, followed by a quick jaunt to Naperville next Tuesday to take on North Central College.

See page 12 for Illinois Wesleyan game summary

Tigers playing mind games Team's toughest opponent may be themselves

BY HEATHER KINZINGER
Sports Editor

Lately, it seems that the Tigers are facing two opponents every time they take the floor: the other team ... and themselves.

A 3-9 record, the worst start in school history, has left the coaching staff and the players searching for answers.

"You certainly want to stay optimistic," Coach Ralph Hodge said. "If you want to feel like you're going to be a good team down the road, and then if you look at where we thought we might be when the season started - because we had some pretty high expectations - then you really begin to question yourselves. I think that happens with coaches and I think that happens with players right now, it's a mind-over-matter thing, and losing can really do that to you."

In defense of the Tigers, the first half of their schedule isn't a weak one. After facing the likes of No. 3-ranked Georgetown College and

Tuesday night, Illinois Wesleyan, a team with a 33-1 home record entering the game, Olivet has plenty of excuses. A lot of programs don't schedule tough non-conference teams.

But that doesn't make up for the fact that the Tigers repeatedly seem to be their own worst enemy. Consistency is the major concern of the team, as mental errors in the form of missed passes, 19.8 turnovers a game, and Tuesday night, illegal screens and fouls away from the ball, have erased the stretches when the Tigers have taken double-figure leads and played much like the team many expected them to be.

"This team has played well at times and we've played well enough to win a fair share of our games in this early season," Hodge continued. "There's a lack of consistency both individually and collectively, and we've got to get better. We have to get our play at a higher level for longer periods of time, and we're just not getting that."

One solution to inconsistency is to make changes. Because of the surprising lack of production from an experienced bench and the almost-20 turnovers per game committed by the Tigers, Hodge has tinkered with the starting line-up in the last three games. The coach has benched off-guard Chris Graham in favor of point-guard Shannon Swiley, which has moved guard Jeff Dillingham back to his natural position at off-guard. Dillingham, who had his share of difficulty handling the ball at the point, likes his new role.

"I can look to be more aggressive on the offensive end. I don't have to run the show; I can look for my shot more."

After a championship at the December 6-7 Augustana Classic, when it appeared the Tigers may have turned a corner on this young season, mental errors again cost them a game Tuesday night. Now, the question is whether the team's inconsistency is a matter of confidence.

"We've got some juniors and seniors that, over the years, have won a lot of games ... so there shouldn't be much doubt in their mind that they can do it," Hodge said. "However, when you continue to lose, whether it's at the free-throw line, or it's a turnover, or it's a bad decision, then you begin to wonder, 'When are we going to win again? Are we capable of winning? Are we as good as we thought we were going to be early?' You get focused on that, and you forget where the real focus needs to be. The real focus needs to be on getting after that loose ball, executing with your teammate"

But there have also been times this season when the Tigers were complacent against some lesser teams.

"Every night you have to go out and prove it You're not better than a team until you prove it," Hodge said. "Good teams play with a lot of confidence that they are better

Continued on page 12

1996-97

Tigers Home Basketball Schedule

December 14 - Purdue
North Central, 1 p.m.

*January 11 - Illinois
Institute of Technology,
4 p.m.

*January 14 - Purdue-
Calumet, 7:30 p.m.

*January 18 - College of
St. Francis, 2 p.m.

January 30 - Robert
Morris College, 7:30 p.m.

*February 1 - Indiana-
South Bend, 2 p.m.

*February 15 - Rosary
College, 2 p.m.

*February 22 - St. Xavier
University, 2 p.m.

*Denotes conference game

Lady Tigers slip, don't fall

BY ERIC OLSON
Sports Writer

The Lady Tigers (6-4) squeaked out a 63-60 win over Marian College Tuesday night in McHie Arena.

The game was neck-and-neck until the Knights pulled away with a 34-44 lead with 16:00 left to play in the second half. That's when the tide turned for Olivet.

With some timely steals and key baskets, the Lady Tigers crawled back in it. Carissa Stiefel, who led Olivet with 17 points, finally gave the Lady Tigers the lead, 46-44, with two freethrows at the 11:30 mark. Olivet added three more points to end their run of fifteen unanswered points, the result of a hustling defense and good work on the boards.

"The big turnaround was rebounding in the second half," assistant coach Heath Olson said. "We just needed to do the little things to win."

A prime example of what Olson referred to was the play of Natalie Gatlin. Gatlin was both an in-

spirational and physical force underneath the basket.

"Gatlin was phenomenal down low," Olson said. She led Olivet in rebounding with ten and was inspirational because of the fashion in which she did it: with only one hand. Gatlin played with a cast on her left hand due to a broken pinky finger. It didn't seem to slow her down, though, and was an integral part of the victory.

But the game was far from over due to the Knights' tough play. Marian came back and tied the game with 8:00 to go in the game. After that, it was a see-saw battle until the buzzer sounded.

Keri Gaskill hit a deep two-pointer as the shot clock was winding down to give the Lady Tigers a 59-55 lead. Marian later took a 59-60 lead on a three-point play with :39 left.

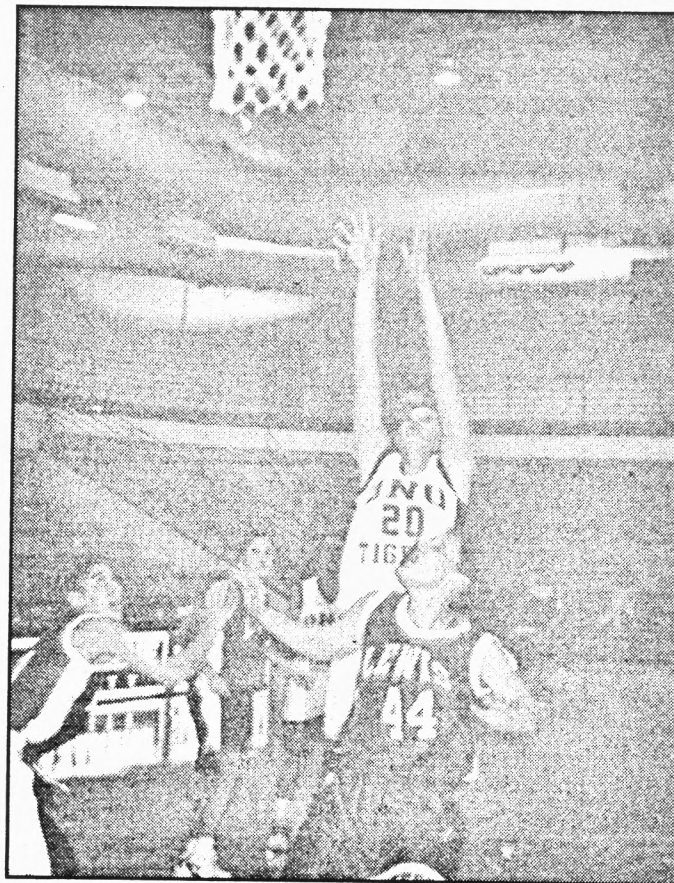
A lay-up by Stiefel then gave Olivet a 61-60 lead with :21 to go. Marian's next possession ended in a missed shot and a key rebound by Gatlin. Sarah Luginbill ended up

with the ball in her hands with :03 remaining and was then fouled. The Lady Tiger captain calmly sank both free throws to add to the slim lead.

The Knights' last chance was a half-court heave that hit hard off the backboard as the buzzer sounded, sealing the Olivet win. Leading scorers for Marian were Traci Bell, with a game-high 20 points, and Julie Jones, with 18.

In double figures for Olivet, along with Stiefel, were Gina Lorenz and Julie Erffmeyer, who posted eleven and ten points, respectively. Erffmeyer also added five rebounds. This was an important victory for the Lady Tigers after coming off a loss to Lewis University last Saturday at McHie Arena. Against Lewis, Olivet didn't play up to their capabilities. The team has lost four of its last seven games.

The team will travel to Michigan this weekend and face two tough teams in Hope College on Friday and Grand Valley State University on Saturday.



Freshman Julie Erffmeyer shoots in traffic against Lewis University at the December 7 game. (Marion Harrison photo)

Focus in the 'middle' of it all Freshman Erffmeyer making immediate impact

BY JEREMY VAN KLEY
Sports Writer

If you've been to an Olivet women's basketball game this season, you've no doubt noticed the presence of freshman Julie Erffmeyer.

The 6-1 center/forward has let it be known that although she may be a freshman, she is here to play. Take, for instance, the week of November 11, when the Lady Tigers were 3-0 and the champions of the Huntington College tournament. During that three-game span, Erffmeyer - or "Erff," as she is more commonly known - shot 65 percent from the field and averaged 18 points, nine rebounds, and 6.3 blocks per game. These numbers earned her NCCAA athlete of the week honors, a national honor given to one athlete in each sport from among Christian colleges across the country. That's no small order for any athlete, especially one just entering the college scene.

A 1996 graduate of Chicago Christian High School in Orland Park, Illinois, Erffmeyer looked elsewhere before committing to Olivet late in the spring of her senior year. She had close ties to the school because her sister attended Olivet for a year and a half, but visits to the university and with the team ultimately influenced her decision.

It was during these visits that the Christian atmosphere made a lasting impression on the center/forward, something she didn't see in other schools she had visited. And when she met the Lady Tigers for the first time, said Erffmeyer, "They accepted me. They treated me as their equal even though I was still in high school." This, said Erffmeyer, is a quality which she didn't find in other programs, and a quality which helped to make the college decision a bit easier.

Along with making an im-

pression through her skill on the court, Erffmeyer has made an impression with her personality. Fellow Lady Tiger Christal Whitman described Erffmeyer as an intriguing person whom, because she is not as vocal as some, a lot of people miss out on knowing.

"Julie is an all-around hard worker, whether it be school or basketball, who takes pride in it. Her character builds me. She has enough skill to run her mouth and back it up with action, but instead, she just does her job."

Freshman teammate Brigit Mattix called Erffmeyer "an unselfish individual," and perhaps this characteristic contributed to Erffmeyer's decision to major in audiology, a field which involves working with the hearing-impaired. Upon graduation, Erffmeyer would like to pursue a career in teaching hearing-impaired children. She has always enjoyed

teaching and working with children, and coupled with her interest in sign language, she looks forward to a rewarding career after basketball.

With so much already accomplished and so much more on the horizon, Erffmeyer laments that on the court, she does feel a little pressure and that being a freshman can oftentimes be intimidating. But as the season progresses, Erffmeyer said that "the pressure is easing, and I am starting to understand more and more that I can still have a good game and make a contribution without scoring a lot of points."

As a team, the Lady Tigers are focusing on both the Christian and NAIA national tournaments as their goals, but for Erffmeyer personally, the goals are less lofty. "I just hope I can contribute to the team and help us reach our goals."

It sounds like Erffmeyer is focused as well.

1996-97 Lady Tigers Home Basketball Schedule

January 2-4 - Olivet Basketball Classic, TBA

January 7 - Purdue-Calumet, 7 p.m.

January 9 - Lincoln Christian College, 7 p.m.

January 16 - Trinity Christian College, 7 p.m.

January 18 - Rosary College, 4 p.m.

January 21 - College of St. Francis, 7:30 p.m.

January 25 - Indiana University-South Bend, 1 p.m.

February 4 - Robert Morris, 7 p.m.

February 22 - Illinois Institute of Technology, 4 p.m.

Club Volleyball jump-starts season

Preseason tourney a prelude to January opener

BY JANELL WAID
Sports Writer

This year's men's Club Volleyball team got a early jump on their season. On December 7, the team hosted a tournament open to any club team.

The team competed in four matches and advanced to the quarterfinals. In a match against Trinity International, the team lost 11-13, 8-11, 11-5.

The team dropped a second match to Trinity Christian, 4-11, 11-5, 9-11, and then faced a team called the "Little Rascals" and won, 12-10, 11-8, 7-11.

In quarterfinal competition, the team again lost to Trinity

Christian, 7-11, 11-9, 13-15.

A team named "Bottom Line" won the tournament.

Middle hitter Ben Davison and right-side hitter John Smith had strong performances.

"Everyone played really well. Everyone carried themselves well," Coach Mike Lanoue said.

The team is strong defensively, plays well as a unit, and generally looks like they enjoy themselves out on the court.

"It is tough to find a total weak point," Lanoue said.

The team opens its season January 31 with a 7:30 p.m. match at Trinity International.

Tiger Den

Several members of Olivet's football team recently received all-conference honors. Four Tigers were named to the MSFA first team, five were named the second team, and three were given honorable mention.

Senior linebacker and Purdue transfer **Darnell Howard** was named to the first team. Howard led the team with 110 tackles and set school records for tackles for a loss (39) and sacks (18). Howard was also one of five conference choices to be named as an NAIA All-American.

Senior defensive end **Mike Chitwood** joins Howard on the first team. Chitwood finished with eight sacks on the year, good enough for second on the team.

On the offensive side, junior tackle and Purdue transfer **Chris Hill** and sophomore receiver **Jeff**

Knight earned first-team honors. Knight led the conference with 57 catches for 577 yards and six touchdowns.

Senior guard **Jeremy Van Kley** and senior tight end **Dan Adams** were named to the second-team offense. Adams finished the season with 35 receptions for 502 yards and five touchdowns.

Senior safety **Jason Schroeder**, who led the team with five interceptions, junior linebacker **Bruce Mann**, and senior nose tackle **Jared Slibeck** made the second-team defense.

Sophomore quarterback **Brad Odgers**, who completed 159 of 263 passes (60.5 percent) for 1,822 yards and 15 touchdowns, and sophomore center **Steve Boelte** were honorable mention. (source: *The Daily Journal*)

Among recruits for the 1997

Tiger football season is transfer cornerback **Tony Brady**. Brady has had stints with Northern Illinois University (1993-94) and Illinois State University (1995) before taking the year off from football this season.


**NAIA Division II
football second-round playoff
scores - December 7**

Findlay 28, Westminster 9
Evangel 28, Lambuth 27
Sioux Falls 52, Northwestern 21
Western Washington 13,
Willamette 12

Semifinals - December 14:

Evangel (11-0) vs. Sioux Falls (12-0)
Findlay (12-0) vs. Western
Washington (10-1)

**Championship game is
December 21 at Hardin
County, Tennessee**
(source: *USA Today*)



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Men's Basketball

Illinois Wesleyan 81,
Olivet Nazarene 75

Olivet: Foster 0-3 2-2 2, Yoder 3-5 0-0 6, Michaels 8-12 6-6 22, Swilley 0-2 0-4 0, Dillingham 3-9 3-3 9, Strebeck 0-1 2-3 2, Field 0-0 0-0 0, Graham 5-9 1-2 13, Pickering 4-7 0-0 9, Neal 4-4 0-0 8, Spinks 0-1 2-2 2, Smith 1-3 0-0 2.

IWU: Pacetti 0-0 0-0 0, Coon 6-9 0-0 15, Osborn 2-5 0-0 6, Hubbard 1-4 3-4 6, Niebrugge 0-1 0-0 0, Crabtree 4-14 14-16 23, Boyden 1-2 8-10 10, Hoder 5-5 0-0 13, Baines 0-4 8-8 8.

Olivet	39	36	75
IWU	31	50	81

Three-point goals— Olivet 3-8 (Dillingham 0-2, Graham 2-3, Pickering 1-2, Spinks 0-1). IWU 10-19 (Coon 3-5, Osborn 2-4, Hubbard 1-2, Crabtree 1-5, Hoder 3-3). Rebounds— Olivet 31 (Michaels 12), IWU 20 (Crabtree 5). Assists— Olivet 17 (Foster, Michaels, Dillingham, Graham 3), IWU 10 (Crabtree 3). Attendance— 1,500.

Editors' note: Women's basketball Marian College game summary was not available at time of publication.

Mind games

Continued from page 12

than people, and then they go prove it We're not proving it."

It's the fundamental "little things" that continue to plague the Tigers, who have shown in spurts that they are capable of being a good team.

So, as Hodge said, now isn't the time for fans to panic. The Tigers haven't faced conference foes yet, and the season is a long one. But don't expect this team to sit around and wait for their lack of execution and poor decision-making to pass with time.

"It's a 31-game season, and you have to continue to work and that's what we're [the coaching staff] challenging these guys with - to try to realize why this is happening, why the mistakes are happening, and then correct them," Hodge said. "There's no one that would like to see it done easier than the coaches and the players, but the reality of it is that we're not getting it done and we need to work towards that end. Time's not going to take care of it. Our play will take care of it, and that's what we need to get focused."

Whodunit? Campus actors, that's who

BY AIMEE COPLEY
Arts Writer

6:00 p.m. - Students in slit dresses and crisp suits fill the foyer of Ludwig Center. The questions come as they always do. "You look good. Where are you going?" The answer brings more questions to the surface because it is so unusual. Murder Mystery. Did you realize that most weekends of the month groups of Olivet students take on different identities and one of them dies? As sinful as that sounds, Murder Mystery is a fun-filled evening of pretend. The performed plot is like something out of Dynasty where personalities clash and someone ends up murdering another person.

Over dinner at the Benet Curtis House in Grand Park, Illinois, Olivet actors present the saga of George and Elizabeth Donovan. The scene takes place at the Full Hope Charity dinner, a charity that helps needy children. As each different character enters, a new subplot

emerges and what develops is a web of intrigue and anger. The feeling around the room as characters appear is that no one really loves each other. It is an easy climate in which murder to breed.

The characters involved in this mystery are the reason why it is possible. Without giving away too many secrets, the actors involved in this activity describe their characters. Randy Kinder, one of the men who plays George, describes him as "a wealthy business executive who has a heart the size of Mother Teresa. He willingly gives to all the needy little children." However, as generous as George is described, the fact remains that everyone at this gathering has cause to be upset with him. One of those people is George's wife, Elizabeth. Actress Mary Dillinger gives her perception of Elizabeth Donovan. "Elizabeth is a thwarted, bitter woman who once aspired to be an actress and has given up her life for her husband, his career, and her children."

Thrown into the casserole

of fun is Jacqueline Morgan, "a seductive vixen." Tricia Cunningham, one of the actresses who plays Morgan, says one of her character's goals is to "monopolize George's time by pursuing a career in public relations." George's career is also effected by his relationship to his lawyer, Calvin Stockard. Nate Bensch colorfully characterizes Stockard as "a sleazebag lawyer who is suspicious and not many people like him." Calvin's date for the charity dinner is Angel Dixon, one of the newest characters in the cast. Kacy Pike gives a picture of who Angel wants to be. "Angel is an ambitious wanna-be lawyer who is very resourceful." The reason behind Angel's resourcefulness could be an issue of discussion. The discussion of who the murderer could be is propelled along by the two U.S. Marshals, Victor Prescott and Spencer Riley. Tim Bensch describes Victor as a "very take-charge kind of guy whenever the situation calls for it." His sidekick, a source of comic relief, is another new character, Spencer Riley. Matt Meyer

paints a picture of Spencer. "Spencer's a U.S. Marshal of lower intelligence. He got the job because his dad was something important in the government. He thinks Victor is his best friend when Victor couldn't care less. It's like a George and Lenny thing." The final two people added to the list of suspects were not even invited to the charity dinner. These party crashers are the infamous troublemakers Dane Jacobs and Meredith Butterfield. Scott Armstrong says his character Dane is "a real jerk. He thrives on other people's weaknesses." Dane's date for the evening spices up the party to an uncomfortable level. To actress Alma Marlin, Meredith Butterfield is "a brassy, sexy gossip columnist who likes to liven things up."

Dane and Meredith complete the list of suspects for murder. A husband. A jerk. A wife. A vixen. A lawyer. A gossip columnist. A wanna be lawyer. And two U.S. Marshals. Who did it? That is a mystery that even the actors don't know until the

evening of the performance.

Murder Mystery is improvisational theater, and the murderer is different every night. Without a set script, actors can experiment and experience spontaneity in its truest form. Tim Bensch, the director of Murder Mystery this year, said, "It's different every night." When asked what one of his favorite challenges is, Bensch replied, "It is great being able to change the characters for this year over the summer." This flexibility is one of the most celebrated parts of being in the murder mystery cast.

Tricia Cunningham stated, "Murder Mystery is an opportunity to do the thing I love most. It's fun and spontaneous and not like regular theater." Diversity is what makes this type of acting so rewarding. Conversations happen in a natural way and actors are challenged to keep their comebacks about them. Murder Mystery provides a way to jump into someone else's skin and make them fresh. It is a chance to pretend to be someone else and feel their pains.

Annual concert is a sweet tradition

BY CHARITY WILLARD
Arts Editor

The 61st performance of the *Messiah* was presented this past weekend in Chalfant Auditorium. It combined the voices of Choral Union, Orpheus Choir, University Singers and community members. It is an opportunity for people who normally might not have the chance to worship together to do so in a unique way. Professor Joe Noble conducted it as he has done for many consecutive years.

In *Messiah*, Handel presents Christ's life by His birth, death, resurrection, and the anticipation of His return.

Soloist Becky Kohl said, "The *Messiah* is a great way to interpret Christ's life in a personal way. It portrays two of my favorite things in life: music and Christ. It takes the musicians and the audience through many different emotions."

Preparation for the *Messiah* involved rehearsals from both the chorus and soloists. There were four soloists each night. The first performance featured alumni soloists and Olivet students. This was no small responsibility. The soloists who are part of the student body had to go through a rigorous audition process in the fall. After they were chosen they had to dedicate a lot of time and energy to perfecting their music.

Kohl commented, "We really had to put a lot of time into rehearsing. Handel wrote so that there were so many things going on that if the music wasn't perfect, the message gets lost."

The Olivet student solos were performed by senior Robin Crouse, junior Becky Kohl, junior Earl Kroll and senior Randy Henricks. The alumni solos were performed by graduates who came from different

places and lifestyles. They were Debbie St. John from Novi, Michigan; Mary Ella Atkinson from Oak Lawn, Illinois; Stephen Gould, who travels the country performing; and Gregory Yates from Casey, Illinois.

Senior Julia Roat commented, "The *Messiah* really helps bring in the Christmas season for me. I've been in it for four years now and each year I feel like it gets more meaningful. I remember the first year I sang in it, I thought that the Hallelujah chorus ended the cantata. I also like that each year Professor Noble chooses different songs so it always provides variety. I love the way Handel uses music to enhance the Scriptures and make them sound so beautiful"

Whether or not music is your forte, when one hears the Hallelujah chorus in this annual presentation, it is impossible not to be touched.

University Singers tour takes student ministry in new direction

BY SHANNON CLARK
Arts Writer

University Singers is Olivet's contemporary chorus. This year, however, the group has undergone numerous changes.

Professor Martha Dalton now directs the choir of 43 students, 29 of which are first-year members. Dave Menendez, Vice President of the University Singers Council said, "Having basically a new a choir and a director are dramatic changes. I am very pleased with the new choir, and although it has taken time for everyone to adjust, it is paying."

At approximately 4:30 p.m. November 23, the University Singers left campus to begin their fall tour. They traveled two hours to Mishawaka, Indiana. Students were housed that evening by various members of the Mishawaka Church of the Nazarene. The group per-

formed their first concert in the Sunday morning service. Sunday afternoon they traveled to Lafayette, Indiana, to put on a concert for a Sunday evening service.

President of the University Singers Council Mark Jordi said, "I was very impressed and proud of the choir on our first tour because we were so well received and got a tremendous response. The Holy Spirit was present in both services and that is what made our tour a true success." The singers returned that night at 9:30 p.m. renewed and full of stories.

The University Singers have undoubtedly enjoyed a full semester. They are looking forward to a busy schedule next semester that includes two spring tours, a variety show, a chapel appearance, and various other engagements.

NEWS OF THE

Creepy!

erie!

strange, but true!

WEIRD

By Chuck Shepherd

- A Spanish man visiting Stockholm on business stood to inherit about a million dollars, according to an October newspaper account in Germany's *Daily Bild*. Eduardo Perez had stopped off to pray at a Roman Catholic church and signed the guest book of a man whose body lay there in a coffin. Perez was later notified that the deceased, real-estate developer Jens Svenson, had died without heirs and had specified that "whoever prays for my soul gets all my belongings."
- In July, after arriving at Baltimore-Washington International Airport, the daughter in a family of four was refused boarding on American Airlines. Mother, father and son presented driver's licenses as ID to satisfy new FAA rules, and the daughter presented a student ID from the University of Maryland. However, the American Airlines clerk refused to accept the card, saying that even though it was issued by a state university, it didn't meet the requirement of being issued by a "government." On the basis on this denial, the family meekly gave up their already arranged vacation in Las Vegas and drove home.
- Patrick L. Bark, 59, pleaded guilty in September in Kansas City, Missouri, to selling more than 1,300 guns illegally over a two-year period, including many to juveniles and felons. Said Bark at his sentencing, "I blame half of it on the [government] for letting me go as long as they did. How was I to know [the guns] would be used in [crimes]?"
- Burglary suspect Wesley Shaffer, 57, said in November that he was temporarily insane the night he allegedly hit a home in West Palm Beach, Florida, because he had just eaten too much cotton candy. And a Montgomery County court in Maryland, in October, accused hit-man hirer Charles S. Shapiro said that tranquilizers, plus an entire bottle of extra-strength Tums ingested in the days before his guilty plea, caused impaired judgment and that he should thus be allowed to withdraw the plea.
- In August, the Hong Kong High Court referred a 50-year-old man to a psychiatric center for treatment after he was charged with indecent assault on his son's 20-year-old girlfriend. A medical report said the man suffered from a post-concussional disorder, which was blamed on a car accident in 1962.
- On the nights of September 12, in St. Louis, Missouri, and November 3, in Minneola, Florida, women were accidentally run over by friends and killed as they had gotten out of trucks in order to urinate on the side of the road. Driver Randy G. Phillips in St. Louis was charged with reckless homicide though he said he was merely moving his pickup truck to try to shield his companion from passing traffic. Florida driver Chad Eric Willis said he was playfully trying to discourage his companion from squatting in front of his tractor-trailer instead of at the side.
- Republican Mark Althouse, 24, lost his bid for the state legislature from York, Pennsylvania, despite promising voters that he would regard a victory as a mandate to end his virginity and marry his girlfriend, Michelle Taylor. And Michael Gubash lost his state Senate bid in Minnesota, though he had had the foresight to create a fallback position in his campaign ads stating that, by the way, he was "also seeking a faithful, devoted, obedient, God-fearing woman to be my wife."
- In October in Stuttgart, Germany, shortly before a televised mayoral debate, candidate Udo Bausch, who had not been invited because he had no realistic chance of winning, walked into the debate auditorium and severed the television cable with an ax.
- Voter apathy registered 100 percent in a ballot question in northern Florida to determine whether Dutton Island would be annexed to the city of Atlantic Beach: Only one person was eligible to vote, and he stayed home.
- At least six women in the eastern Noakhali district of Bangladesh, who voted for winning candidates in the June 12 elections against the will of their husbands, reported a few days later that their husbands had sent them back to their parents' homes and had begun divorce proceedings.
- Colorado Senate candidate Laurie Bower, after weeks of bashing her opponent, incumbent Dave Wattenberg, abruptly changed her mind during a radio program on the Saturday before Election Day, quit the race, and endorsed Wattenberg, saying he would do a better job than she would.
- In a procedure denounced by the Association of Professional Piercers, Phoenix piercer's apprentice Joe Aylward recently had a plate implanted just under the skin of his skull so that he can screw decorative spikes into his head, which Aylward believes will improve his appearance. Another man reportedly plans to have devil-type horns made of coral similarly implanted.
- In October, United States Customs agents stopped a Somerton, Arkansas, man coming from Mexico at the border town of San Luis, Arkansas, because he had an ice chest containing 12,700 dead scorpions. Customs didn't know immediately whether importing dead scorpions was illegal and so turned over the cache to another agency.
- In August, 12 men were arrested near Szczecin in northern Poland as they were digging up a road because they had heard a rumor that it was built with a large stockpile of police-confiscated hashish. The hashish had been sold to a chemical plant to be incinerated into ash for road construction.
- In August, Pembroke Pines, FL, Police Detective Earl Feugill foiled a robbery at a fast-food restaurant by disguising himself and his shotgun as a tree (using a camouflage outfit, strips of burlap, and black face paint) alongside the drive-thru window. He had staked out the restaurant because of a string of similar robberies. Paul Carthy, 25, pleaded guilty in Exeter, England, in September to theft subsequent to his original charge of shoplifting from a liquor store. In the second theft, he had stolen the magnetic letters off the name board that was held up to his face when his mug shot was taken.
- In October, police in Tokyo arrested Ms. Teruko Hamakawa, 52, for illegal interference with a man's business, charging her with calling him on the phone at work and the hanging up -16,000 times in a one-year period. She was angry that, after they had exchanged photos seeking a romantic introduction, he failed to call, which she thought was "impolite."
- In September, according to police in Junction City, Kansas, David Bell, 30, just released from jail for car theft, walked out the door and stole another car to get home.
- And in October, William B. Singleton, 24, just released from jail in Belton, Missouri, on a larceny charge, allegedly broke into a vending machine in the lobby of the police station and stole a 60-cent Strawberry Twisteroo while he waited for his ride to arrive.
- In October, a 49-year-old San Francisco stockbroker, who "totally zoned when he ran," according to his wife, accidentally jogged off of a 200-foot-high cliff on his daily run.
- And in September in Detroit, a 41-year-old man got stuck and drowned in two feet of water after squeezing headfirst through an 18-inch-wide sewer grate to retrieve his car keys.
- And in September, a 7-year-old boy fell off a 100-foot-high bluff near Ozark, Arkansas, after he lost his grip swinging on a cross that marked the spot where another person had fallen to his death in 1990.



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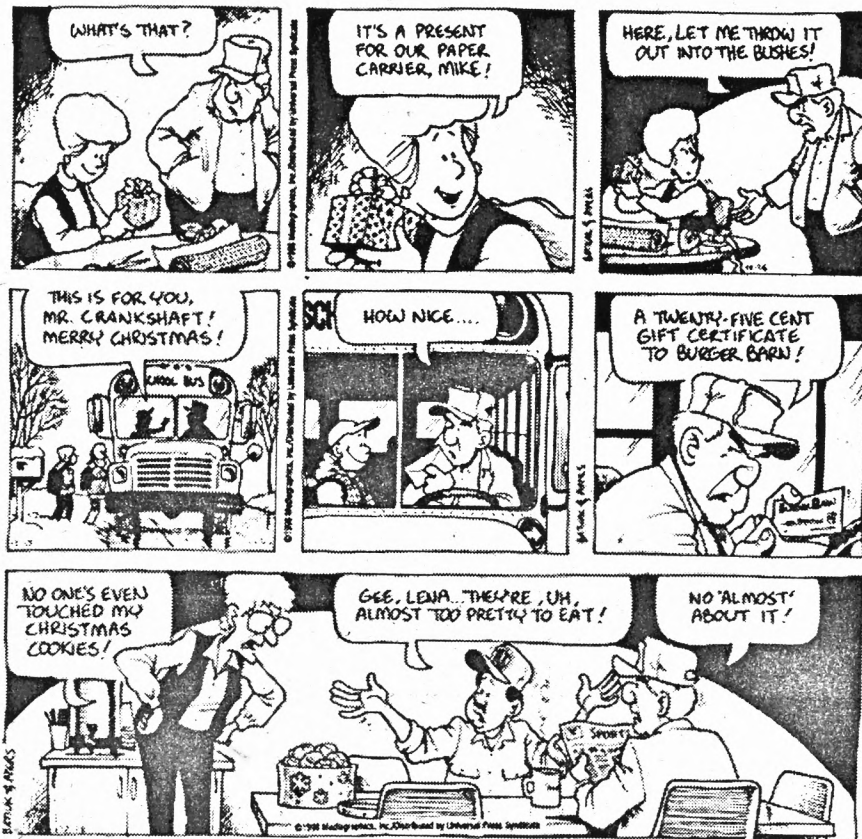
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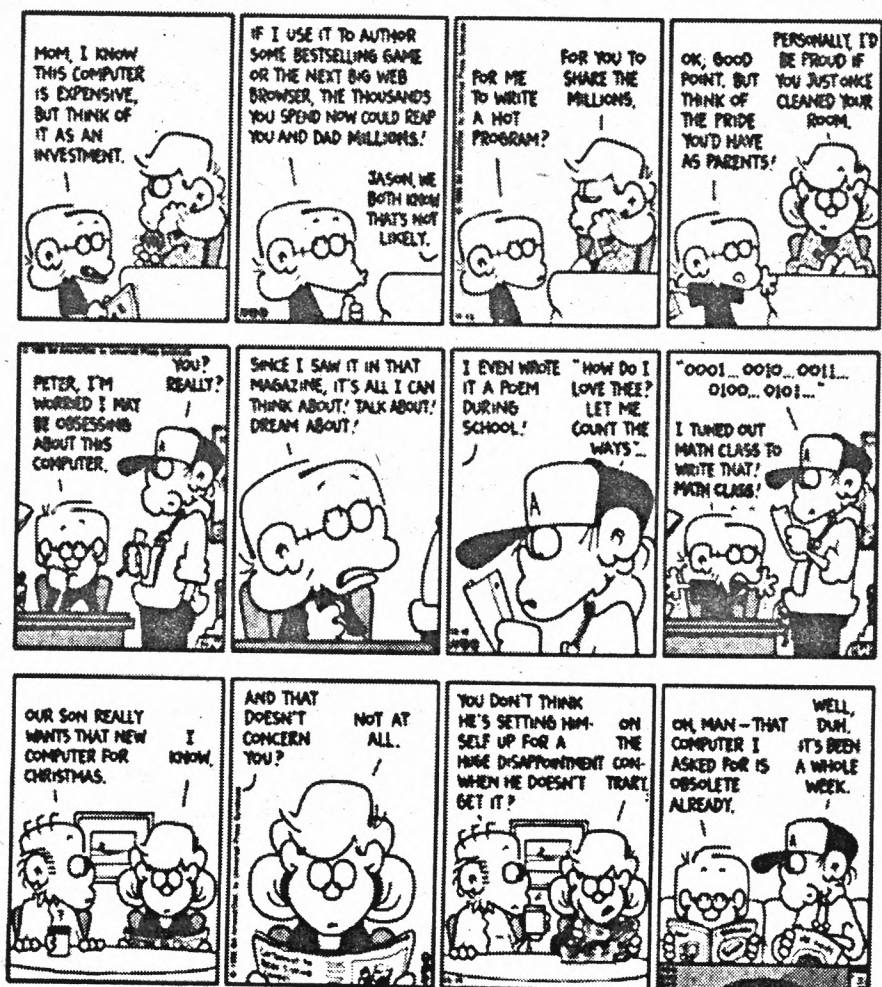
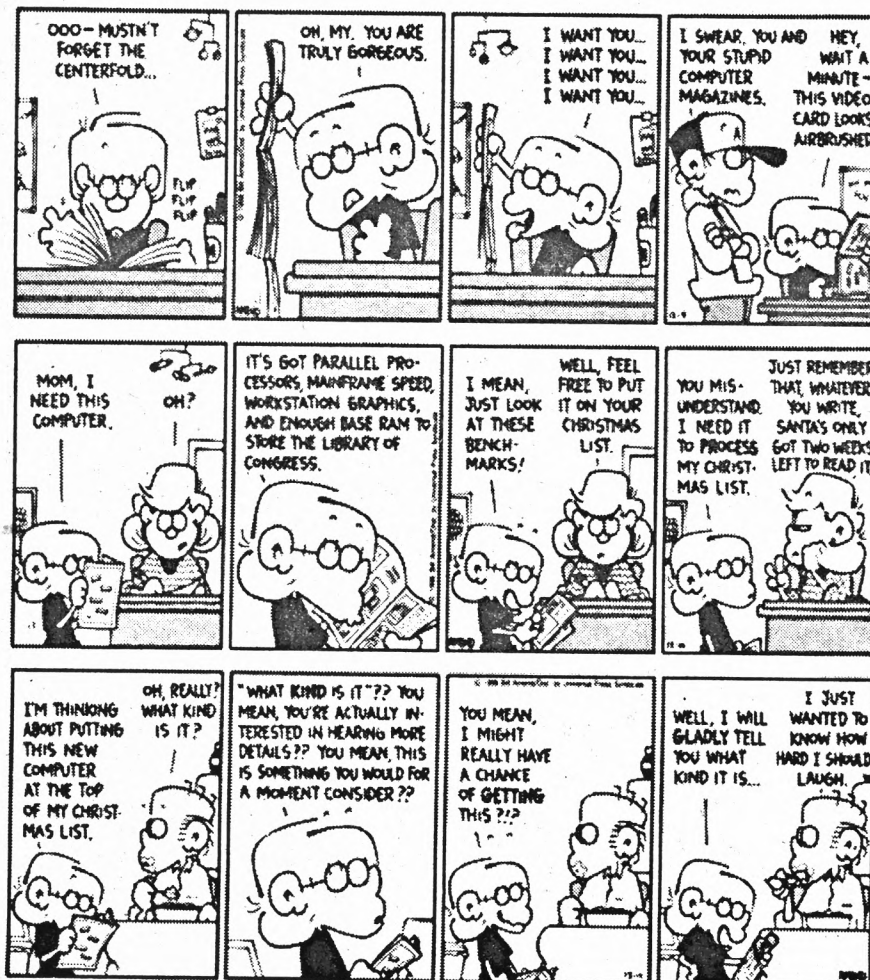
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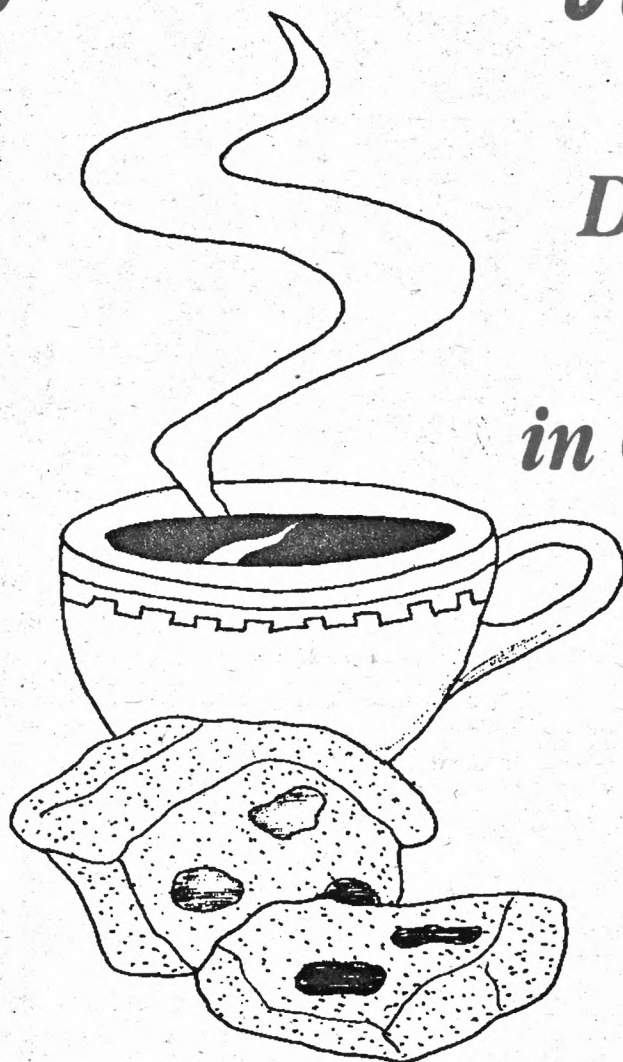
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